



SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Laurens 55 School District
 Grades: PK-12 Enrollment: 5,562
 Superintendent: Dr. Billy R. Strickland
 Board Chair: Mrs. Susan Calhoun-Ware

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2013	Average	Good	N/A	N/A	C	N/A
2012	Average	Excellent	N/A	N/A	B	N/A
2011	Below Average	Excellent	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
5	8	10	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 01/16/2014. Districts with Students Like Ours are Districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

PASS					
PASS	2013 Reading	2013 Math	2013 Science	2013 Social Studies	2013 Writing
	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above	% Met or above
District	74.6%	70.5%	71.4%	75.0%	72.7%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	71.7%	67.7%	67.6%	70.6%	68.9%
Average District	76.9%	73.4%	73.0%	75.7%	74.5%

PASS	2013 Reading	2013 Math	2013 Science	2013 Social Studies	2013 Writing
	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary	% Exemplary
District	33.0%	26.0%	17.1%	32.2%	25.0%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	34.7%	28.9%	18.7%	30.5%	26.9%
Average District	41.7%	35.6%	23.9%	36.9%	33.8%

HSAP			
HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtest (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	76.3%	12.2%	11.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	79.1%	12.1%	9.2%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013 (%)	
District	91.4%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	91.1%

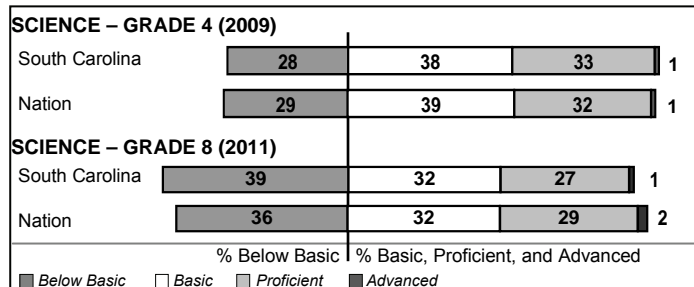
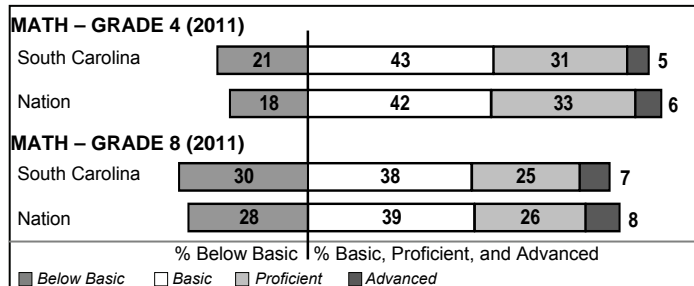
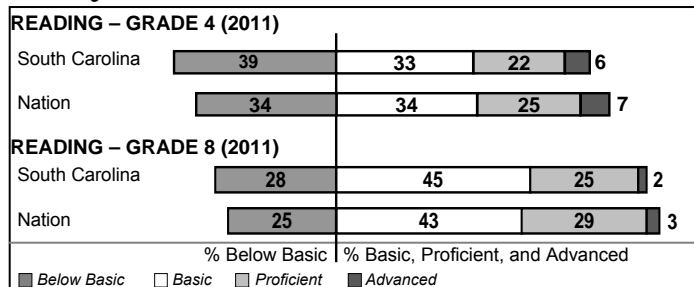
End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)	
District	78.0%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	68.6%

On-Time Graduation Rate (%)	
District	73.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	78.6%

** Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

NAEP*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined

Laurens 55 School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=5,562)				
Retention rate	2.7%	Down from 3.9%	2.7%	1.9%
Attendance rate	95.9%	No Change	95.7%	95.8%
Served by gifted and talented program	11.6%	N/A	11.6%	12.0%
With disabilities	16.5%	N/A	13.8%	12.7%
Older than usual for grade	8.0%	N/A	6.1%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.1%	No Change	0.4%	0.7%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	15.1%	Up from 13.9%	9.3%	14.0%
Successful on AP/IB exams	36.5%	Up from 33.3%	49.3%	50.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	28.3%	Up from 25.6%	34.5%	31.8%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	110	Up from 96	33	50
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	39	Down from 58	27	37
Annual dropout rate	4.2%	Down from 4.7%	2.6%	2.3%
Teachers (n=336)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	56.8%	Down from 60.8%	61.8%	61.4%
Continuing contract teachers	78.3%	Down from 86.6%	84.2%	80.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.9%	Down from 92.0%	91.2%	90.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.9%	Up from 93.9%	94.8%	94.8%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,989	Up 2.2%	\$46,664	\$47,587
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	No Change	0.2%	0.2%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.8%	Up from 0.1%	2.0%	1.8%
Professional development days/teacher	13.4 days	Down from 15.5 days	10.4 days	10.3 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	4.0	Up from 3.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.7 to 1	Down from 24.1 to 1	21.1 to 1	22.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.4%	Up from 88.3%	89.2%	89.4%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,071	Down 0.9%	\$9,097	\$9,101
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	54.0%	Up from 53.1%	52.0%	52.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	57.0%	Up from 54.9%	54.0%	56.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	11	No Change	10	11
Portable classrooms	1.3%	Down from 1.4%	0.5%	0.9%
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	11.0	No Change	10.0	10.0
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Average administrator salary	\$83,978	Up 3.9%	\$79,306	\$79,389
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
ESEA composite index score	75.6	Down from 84.3	79.5	81.0

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES STUDENT PERFORMANCE

	PASS	HSAP	End-of-Course Tests
Passage Rate	N/A	N/A	N/A

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	ESEA Grade
There are no charter schools in this district.			

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Laurens School District 55 continues to excel despite ongoing financial restrictions. Through the continued efforts of students and staff to adhere to cost-saving measures, the district remains in a stable financial position. Grant awards provided over \$800,000 for additional student resources.

The district's instructional program provides quality learning opportunities to meet the needs of our diverse student population. Classroom instruction, hands-on learning, technology resources, fine arts opportunities, and a full range of extracurricular activities help to enrich and expand the learning process for students. The graduating class of 2013 earned nearly \$3 million in scholarship funds. Professional growth is an important component in our district's commitment of having a highly qualified teacher in every classroom. Employees participated in over 11,000 hours of professional development training provided by the district mostly in after-hours mini-courses.

The district's safety and security processes and procedures were reviewed and upgraded. The installation of buzzer entry systems and security cameras serve as additional safety measures for providing a safe environment for students and staff.

Six of the district's schools were named recipients of Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards in recognition of academic achievement and closing achievement gaps. The district continues to implement a five-year capital needs plan for the purpose of maintaining buildings and equipment in a safe manner and planning for the repair and/or replacement of buildings and equipment. One of the chief functions of the seven-member District 55 Board of Trustees is to consider policy development. The board provides for the allocation of human, instructional, financial, and other resources to support the district's vision, mission, belief, and goals.

These are exciting times in District 55, and the support of this community is fundamental to our continued success. Billy R. Strickland, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Abbreviations Key

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 NI Newly Identified CDI Continuing District Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY District Improvement Status HOLD District Improvement Status
 01/16/14-3055999